

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 COPENH 02160 150827Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-07 LAB-04
NSAE-00 SIL-01 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 /041 W
-----150930Z 086901 /20

R 141632Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4268
INFO AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE COPENHAGEN 2160

REF: COPENHAGEN 1743

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, PINT, DA
SUBJECT: DANISH EMPLOYERS' CONFEDERATION REJECTS MEDIATION PRO-
POSL

SUMMARY: THE DANISH EMPLOYERS' CONFEDERATION
HAS REJECTED THE MEDIATOR'S PROPOSAL TO RESOLVE THE IM-
PASSE REACHED IN THE NATIONAL WAGE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN
THE DANISH TRADE UNION FEDERATION AND THE EMPLOYERS.
UNLESS ACTION IS TAKEN BY THE FOLKETING OR ANOTHER SOLU-
TION IS FOUND QUICKLY, A CRIPPLING NATIONAL STRIKE COULD
BEGIN AT MIDNIGHT APRIL 15. THE GOVERNMENT IS MOVING TO
MAKE THE MEDIATOR'S PROPOSAL LAW BY PARLIAMENTARY ACTION
BEFORE SUCH A STRIKE BEGINS. END SUMMARY.

1. WHILE THE DANISH TRADE UNION FEDERATION'S (LO) MEMBER-
SHIP VOTED TO ACCEPT THE MEDIATOR'S PROPOSAL BY A MAJORITY
OF 67.4 PERCENT (TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION ONLY DIRECT ELEC-
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 COPENH 02160 150827Z

TION RESULTS AND OMITTING EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE DECISIONS
WHICH WOULD RAISE THE PERCENTAGE TO 76.2 PERCENT), THE DAISH
EMPLOYERS' CONFEDERATION (DEC) MEMBERSHIP REJECTED IT
BY A MAJORITY OF 65.6 PERCENT. UNLESS THE DISPUTE IS RESOLVED
IN OTHER WAYS, A GENERAL LABOR CONFLICT MAY LAME MOST
OF DENMARK AFTER MIDNIGHT APRIL 15 (FRIDAY).

2. THE DEC'S PRINCIPAL OBJECTION TO THE MEDIATION

PROPOSAL IS INCLUSION OF A DKR. 29 (\$1.00 -

DKR. 5.97) MINIMUM WAGE - THE FIRST IN DANISH HISTORY -

FOR WORKERS COVERED BY AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE LO AND

EMPLOYERS IN THE DEC. THE EMPLOYERS FEAR THAT ESTABLISH-

MENT OF SUCH A MINIMUM WAGE WOULD IMPACT THROUGHOUT THE

ENTIRE WAGE STRUCTURE AND SAY THAT THE MEDIATION PRO-

POSAL WOULD THUS RESULT IN WAGE INCREASES GOING FAR

BEYOND THE 2 PERCENT AGREED UPON IN THE AUGUST COMPROMISE.

(THE DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL THIS COMPROMISE WAS AGREED

UPON IN 1976 BY SEVERAL PARTIES WHICH STILL CONSTITUTE A PARLIAMENTAR

Y

MAJORITY. THE EMPLOYERS SAY THAT MANY OF

THEIR ENTERPRISES CANNOT SUPPORT SO HIGH A MINIMUM WAGE

AND PREDICT THAT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MEDIATOR'S PRO-

POSAL WILL RESULT IN ANNUAL WAGE INCREASES REACHING

10.6 PERCENT.

3. THE LO'S REACTION TO THE DEC REJECTION HAS BEEN

TO CALL FOR IMMEDIATE ENACTMENT OF THE MEDIATOR'S

PROPOSAL INTO LAW. THE LO IS SUPPORTED IN THIS

STAND BY THE MINORITY SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT

OF ANKER JORGENSEN WHICH IS NOW PREPARING THE WAY FOR

EXPEDITIOUS PASSAGE BY THE FOLKETING OF THE UNCHANGED

TEXT OF THE MEDIATOR'S PROPOSAL. MOST DANES SEEM TO

BELIEVE THAT A CRIPPLING STRIKE WILL NOT BE PERMITTED

BY THE PARTIES TO THE AUGUST COMPROMISE.

DEAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LABOR RELATIONS, COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS, LABOR ARBITRATION, GENERAL STRIKES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 14-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977COPENH02160
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770131-0433
Format: TEL
From: COPENHAGEN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770459/aaaabyoc.tel
Line Count: 89
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 5a2fb2a5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 COPENHAGEN 1743
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2810344
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DANISH EMPLOYERS' CONFEDERATION REJECTS MEDIATION PRO-
TAGS: ELAB, PINT, DA, LO, DEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/5a2fb2a5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009